Facilities at Ayodhya Station

†2154. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the importance of Ayodhya and the number of passengers a need is being felt to give this station a complete facelift and enhance the facilities here;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following improvement works costing Rs.38.37 lakh have recently been completed at Ayodhya railway station:

(i) Improvement to second class waiting hall;

(ii) Provision of toilet in VIP room;

(iii) Widening of approach road;

(iv) Improvement to circulating area;

(v) Improvement to water booths at various platforms and

(vi) Provision of Kota stone in verandah, portico and concourse of the station.

(c) Does not arise.

Unmanned crossings

†2155. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned crossings in the North-Western Railway, West-Central Railway and Western Railway in Rajasthan;

(b) how many of them could be removed by providing under passage at the time of gauge conversion;

(c) the number of railway crossings where the State Government has proposed to construct ROB or RUB; and

(d) whether Government would consider to make all the railway crossings manned by imposing toll tax to meet the expenditure on its cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The number of unmanned crossings falling in State of Rajasthan on the Zonal Railways are as under:

(i)	North-Western Railway	1581
(ii)	West-Central Railway	105
(iii)	Western Railway	4

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The number of unmanned crossings removed by providing under passage are as under:

(i)	North-Western Railway	1
(ii)	West-Central Railway	Nil
(iii)	Western Railway	Nil

(c) State Govt. has proposed following nos. of ROB/RUB works:

(i)	North-Western Railway	2
(ii)	West-Central Railway	4
(iii)	Western Railway	10

(d) There is no policy/proposal for manning of level crossings by imposing toll tax at present.

Facilities to pregnant women and their kins

2156. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is making all efforts towards making the Railways a world class network;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction; and

(c) what facilities Government is providing for pregnant women and their kins traveling by trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The upgradation of rail network is a continuous process undertaken by the railways to take care of not only the existing traffic but also the future projections of passenger and freight traffic. As regards making railways a world class network, railways have, in the case of stations, made a beginning by identifying 22 stations to be developed as "World Class Stations".

(c) Instructions exist that in all trains having reserved accommodation, a combined quota of two lower berths per coach may be earmarked in sleeper, AC 3 tier and AC 2 tier classes for Senior Citizens, Female passengers of 45 years of age and above and pregnant women when traveling alone. No separate quota is earmarked for the kins of pregnant women.

New railway lines in Andhra Pradesh

2157. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the complete details of the new rail lines proposed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh indicating those which have been approved by the Ministry of Railways and the progress made till date on execution of approved new rail lines in the State; and